1: Powdermaker E-5 (1929-1930) 1933 OM10 New Ireland OM10
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252 for the evening meal to be prepared, but sometimes, particularly if a woman has come home from the gardens rather late in the afternoon, she may, assisted by her daughter, cook separately from the others. This appears to be a matter of choice, and is dependent upon the time of the day and other conditions, such as how tired she is, and how the rest of the women feel.

252 343 Each hamlet has its recognized communal cooking-place, which is generally an open clearing in the centre. In addition many of the hamlets have a cook-house for use in rainy weather. This house is without walls and is merely a bamboo fence two or three feet high enclosing a space with a thatched roof above. For a big intervillage rite, a large cook-house is erected specially for the occasion. The non-communal cooking is done either in the woman's own house or in front of it.

252 The manner of preparing the food is the same whether it is done singly or in a group. All food is baked. The men share in the preparations by making the *liga*, a pile of hot stones in which the baking is done; by bringing in the leaves in which the food is to be wrapped, and which serves to cover the *liga*. They also uncover, or level, the *liga* when the food has been baked. The young boys assist in this work.

On a stroll through the hamlets in mid-afternoon of an average day one sees a group of women and girls sitting on the ground surrounded by their baskets, bunches of taro, bundles of leaves, and hollow bamboo stems filled with water (or discarded bottles from some plantation). The men will have brought firewood from the bush, made a fire, and heaped up stones on top of the burning wood. A fire is usually [372] started with a burning log from another fire, but if necessary two pieces of wood are rubbed together to produce fire. A few men and boys will be bringing in leaves for the final covering of the *liga*, and if there is fish or pig, the men will be off on one side preparing it to be baked. The father or